

STOURBRIDGE CHRONICLE



Thursday, July 26, 2012

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Boxing clever

Villagers find novel use for old telephone kiosk

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What's on

Your five-page TV and entertainment guide

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Flying bat

That wood have been a lovely shot as well

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Worries of damage as tree grows from Cone

A SMALL tree is growing out of the side of Wordsley's Red House Glass Cone sparking fears it will damage the historic building if action is not taken.

A clump of branches is now sprouting from brickwork at the cone, in High Street.

Calls have now been made for Dudley Council to remove the vegetation quickly so it cannot pose a risk to the building - which is one of the last of its kind in the world.

It is not the first time action has been needed to remove a tree growing from the cone's brickwork.

In 2008, a painstaking operation was carried out by council officers to remove another sapling which had started to emerge from the cone after roots spread inside the brickwork.

A cherry picker had to be used so workers could carefully remove each branch individually to ensure no damage was caused.

Council bosses said they did not believe it was the same tree which had grown back as all of the roots had been removed.

And they said it was difficult to protect buildings as tree seeds were often airborne and could enter structures like the cone.

Officials said they were already in talks with English Heritage to obtain advice and permission to carry out work to remove the sapling.

Two cafes at centre shut

TWO cafes at Merry Hill shopping centre in Dudley have closed.

The Cafe Giardino outlets, which were part of a national chain, closed as a result of the operating company Town Centre Restaurants going into administration.

It is not known how many jobs were lost as a result of the closures. The owners of the shopping centre, Westfield, declined to comment.



Campaigner Phil Vanes addresses care home rescuers

Garden party for saved care home

IT WAS three cheers for campaigners who celebrated a reprieve for a closure-threatened care home with a garden party.

Residents thanked all those who had fought for the future of New Bradley Hall, in Kingswinford, during the weekend event.

Sunshine bathed the well-wishers at the care home, in Compton Drive, as they raised a glass to their successful campaign.

Campaign leaders Mac Scott MBE and Phil Vanes gave heartfelt speeches to those at the event.

Champagne corks popped as glasses of bubbly and slices of cake were handed out to friends and family at the event.

Many residents then picked a sunny spot outside to listen as live entertainment including singers who had the party in full flow.

Wonderful

Mr Scott, whose mother-in-law Irene Claridge lives at the home, said: "It is a wonderful occasion and we are just thankful to have reached this day, it's marvellous."

Resident Harry Griffiths, a 79-year-

old retired lorry driver originally from Lye, wanted to thank the campaigners for saving the home.

"We have to paid tribute to the work that they did and we are so pleased to be here celebrating, it's a great day," he added.

New Bradley Hall's elderly residents faced being forced out when plans to axe the home were revealed last year.

But leading councillors decided to keep the 31-bed care home open last month following a high-profile campaign.

Officers will carry out mini bike blitz

POLICE will seize mini-motorbikes from young riders in a new crackdown aimed at stopping them tearing around land close to homes in Stourbridge.

Riders will be heard racing across fields around busy Oldnall Road, in Wollescote, by residents who have now called for action.

Officers say the bikes, many of which do not have silenced exhausts, have been ridden "recklessly" off road over the past few weeks. West Midlands Police have received many reports of the illegal riders, prompting the fresh crackdown.

Patrols will be stepped up around the area in the coming days, coinciding with the summer school holidays when more youngsters will be out and about.

Anyone seen riding recklessly will be stopped by officers who will warn them about their conduct.

Bikes will be removed or seized by officers in serious cases.

Police today encouraged residents to report any rides taking place on nearby fields.

Sgt Duncan Rudge, from the Cradley and Wollescote Neighbourhood Team, said: "We urge local people who are affected by the nuisance of off-road bikers to pass on information to us so we can continue to address the problem and reduce antisocial behaviour."

Cricket club given £33k

STOURBRIDGE Cricketers are among hundreds of people in the Black Country to benefit from a slice of nearly £2 million of Olympic legacy funding announced today.

Stourbridge Cricket Club, in the High Street will get £32,810 for the refurbishment of its showers and changing rooms.

It is one of six community sports projects in the region which will get a share of £1,981,540 investment from the Inspired Facilities Fund.

HARVEST FESTIVAL LOST TO SAVE CASH

THE ANNUAL harvest festival which attracted hundreds of visitors to Stourbridge has been axed this year after cash was ploughed into the borough's Diamond Jubilee and Olympic celebrations instead.

Brierley Hill and Halesowen's By The Sea events, which featured sand-pits and seaside-themed family entertainment, have also been dropped from this year's events calendar.

The harvest festival traditionally takes place in September but officials from Dudley Council have scrapped it so "resources could be focused" on the Diamond Jubilee and Olympic Torch relay events instead.

Last year hundreds of families descended on the town as stalls selling fresh vegetables, spicy foods, jewellery and books lined the streets.

David Harcourt, who helps organise events in Stourbridge, said that cancelling the event this year had been disappointing but "realistic" given the funding available.

"The harvest festival is one of the most popular events in the town and there is no reason why it will not be back next year," he said.

"However we knew the funding was not going to be there for this year's event," Mr Harcourt added.

Report by Adam Burling

"It came down to deciding whether to stage all of the events and spread the available money thinly or focus what we had on the annual town carnival and the Christmas celebrations."

"It was decided to concentrate on the carnival and Christmas this year to make those events the best they can possibly be."

"The harvest festival is very popular but we had to be realistic."

The Brierley Hill event was only launched last year but, like the other two events, attracted hundreds of visitors into town centres boosting trade throughout the summer months.

Footfall

Brierley Hill trader Bob Mantle, who runs BHF Flowers in High Street, said losing anything which brought people into the town was a bad thing.

"There is so little footfall in Brierley Hill at the moment and so little to bring people in to town any event which is lost is bad for the town," he said.

"We need things to boost the town at the present time."

Dudley Council spokesman Kate Arnold confirmed the events would not be going ahead as resources had been focused on the jubilee and Olympic torch.

Dudley Council bosses said they were reviewing all town centre events but recognised they were an excellent way of boosting visitor numbers.

Teachers bid final farewells



Denise Sheldon-Lees with Pat Shepherd and Carol Nicklin who have retired from Ashwood Park Primary

AN ERA has come to an end for three Wordsley teachers who have all retired from Ashwood Park Primary School.

Denise Sheldon-Lees, 59, Pat Shepherd, 59, and Carol Nicklin, 60, said their last goodbyes to children last week.

They were praised by headteacher Steve Hudson for helping the school out of special measures status two years ago.

Mrs Sheldon-Lees, who lives in Wolverhampton, got her first job at the school 38 years ago.

Said she: "It just shows something must be right here for me to stay so long."

Mrs Shepherd, who lives in Kingswinford, joined the school after a career break to have two children. She has been teaching at the school for 26 years.

She said: "I'm going to miss the children here, they are all wonderful. It is why I have stayed here."

Mrs Nicklin, who is from Kinver, began teaching at the school after spells at schools in Worcestershire. She has been at the school for 20 years.

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Villagers find novel use for unwanted phone box

They say the best things come in small packages.

And that is certainly true for the Belbroughton Book Exchange near Stourbridge.

Despite being one of the smallest libraries in the world, set up in an old red telephone box, it is a honey pot for the village's avid readers.

The library is kept stocked up as villagers borrow books and replace them with their own used volumes.

"It's self-perpetuating," said Ruth Perry, of High Street, Belbroughton, who runs the exchange with the help of a group of neighbours and fellow members of the village history society.

When members of the history group found out the phone kiosk in High Street on the corner of Pinchers Close was going to be removed by BT last year, they set about finding a way of saving it for the village.

Dilapidated

"The kiosk is very nice street furniture, although it was getting dilapidated and was non-commercialised, with none of its internal organs left inside," said Mrs Perry, aged 66, a retired teacher.

"We had to have an authorised body to take it over so Belbroughton Parish Council became our underwriter and the history society purchased it from BT for a nominal £1.

"BT painted it and even put the gold crowns back on, because they had worn off. We wanted it to be useful, rather than decorative, and mused over what we could use it for."

"We'd heard of other places where phone boxes had children's paint-



Ruth Perry browsing in the telephone box library

ings in – but hit upon the idea of turning it into a library for the village. I'm obsessed about children reading and I'm glad to see so many young people in the village using our library."

Mrs Perry, together with neighbours Sue and Ian Dalziel, Sue Pawley and history society chairman Sarah Bradley, then started setting it up. They had to replace one pane of glass in the phone box and Belbroughton Woodyard gave them the shelving, which the volunteers painted black.

They put a request in the parish newsletter for people to donate their used books – and Mrs Perry, who runs a second hand book shop at



Villagers queue up at the telephone box book exchange which is proving a hit with people in Belbroughton

Harvington Hall, near Kidderminster, stored them in her hallway.

"It was good fun setting it up and we had bags of books to stock it," said Mrs Perry, who has lived in Belbroughton for 23 years.

Regulars

"Then, in May last year, we had a grand opening."

At least 100 people now use the library regularly, dipping into its stock of 200 to 300 fact, fiction and children's books and then replenishing the shelves with their own spare ones.

Among the regulars are retired teachers Chris and Heather Lofthouse.

"We think the idea to use the telephone box as a library is a fantastic one," said Mr Lofthouse. We regularly borrow and donate to it.

"In fact, although our children have now grown up and left home, they also use the library on visits back home."

"The opening of the box happened shortly after the death of my mother, who was an avid reader and a collector of books, so I was able to donate quite a few books in the beginning to help stock the library. Cyclists and hikers passing through the village also often stop and browse the shelves. People respect it and we make sure it's neatly stacked with quality books," said Mrs Perry.

Finalists revealed for show

THE FINALISTS of a talent contest in the Black Country have been announced and will now vie for the public's votes.

Molly Wood, Holly Littlewood, Alesi Summer, Martha Darcy and Amber Hughes will all sing at the Smartfest event in Stourbridge on August 10, when a panel of judges will decide the winner.

But a public vote on the event's website www.smartfest.org.uk will also be taken into account.

All five had entered a heat at St John's Church, in Stourbridge, where the judges opted to send them all through to the final as the standard was so high.

Smartfest is a three-day festival based in Stourbridge on August 10 to 12 showcasing the best in music, dance and poetry in the region.

Car ban is cut

A GARDENER caught with no car insurance had his driving ban halved after saying he regularly needed to take his cancer-stricken father to hospital.

Dean Davies, 24, of Mullett Street, Brierley Hill had 12 points on his licence and told Dudley magistrates the cancer had worsened. They gave him a three-month ban instead.

Davies was fined £110 and ordered to pay £85 costs and a £15 victim surcharge. He had admitted the offences.

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NEWS

Summer here as schools say their final farewells



Nursery nurse Victoria Smith with children during her last day at Belle Vue Primary School, Wordsley



Stourbridge-based head Peter Mountford with lollipop lady Sheila Voce, retiring from Wolverley Sebright School

teacher Peter Mountford joined lollipop lady Sheila Voce to bid fond farewell to Wolverley Sebright Primary School near Kidderminster.

Mr Mountford will leave his post on August 31 after 15 years in charge while lollipop lady Sheila Voce has left after 40 years of service.

Mr Mountford, aged 60, says he made the decision following the retirement of his wife, special needs teacher Carole.

He said: "I have had a wonderful career teaching the children, I know I will probably miss it."

Fantastic

Mrs Smith said: "I've built a strong bond with the children and their families. It's a fantastic school." Parents said they were very sad to see her go.

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NEWS

Winning children make a stand



Teegan Blackham, centre, aged six, from Quarry Bank Primary School and Lily Jones, left, aged 10, from New Invention Junior School with Jagbin Singh-Mann, aged 10, from Wodenfield Primary School

SCHOOLCHILDREN who brought learning to life have been recognised in the Express & Star's first ever Living History Awards.

The awards were the brainchild of historian Carl Chinn with the aim of encouraging youngsters to investigate the history of elsewhere they live. The three schools chosen as the overall winners were Quarry Bank Primary, in Dudley, New Invention Junior, in Willenhall, and Wodenfield Primary,

Wolverhampton. Youngsters at Quarry Bank Primary created their very own cardboard bandstand. All three winning schools received a cheque for £250 and five others received runner-up prizes of £50.

One of the judges, E&S editor Adrian Faber said: "When we started this we expected we would get lots of essays and written things. We never expected the to get a full-sized bandstand."

300 want 30 shop jobs

MORE than 300 people turned up to an open day to apply for just 30 jobs which are available at a new Midcounties Co-operative store that is opening at a former pub in Stourbridge.

The old Broadway pub in Norton is being converted into a convenience store which will open on August 2.

The building in Broadway Road is being refurbished and extended to provide 3,000 sq ft of retail space.

Store Manager Jim Stuart said he was "delighted" by the response from jobhunters.

The pub was closed in February last

year by licensees Jane and Keith Johnson as they were struggling to make ends meet.

It was later put on the market for £345,000 with estate agents Christie & Co and the sale was completed in October.

The shop will offer a selection of fresh food as well as a range of convenience goods and customer facilities including a car park. It will be open seven days a week from 7am to 10pm.

Mr Stuart, said: "We were delighted with the positive response from locals. We are very much a community

retailer so it's great to create several new jobs, especially given it's International Year of Co-operatives, which is all about working together to build a better future."

"As a co-operative business, which is owned by its members, we are looking forward to building links with the wider community and continuing to invest in the area."

Residents were invited to take a look at the transformed building at a special open day.

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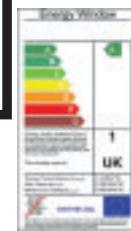
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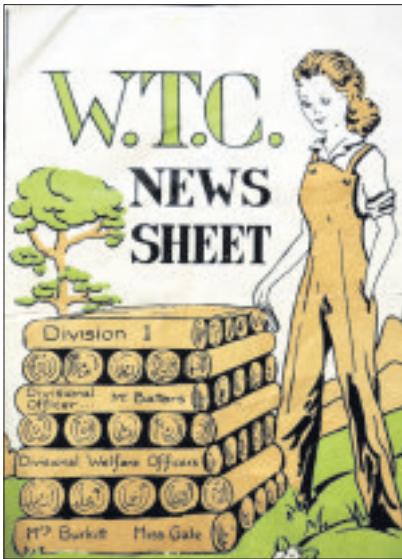
Modern day Lumberjills Jacqui Blackford, left, and Sarah Bowers



Lumberjills – and jacks – take time out to pose for this old picture



Lumberjills at work during the Second World War



A Lumberjills newsletter produced during the war

When tree fellers had jills to do the lumbering

by Marion Brennan

THEY came to Staffordshire to fell trees for vital timber in the Second World War, some of them still teenagers away from home for the first time.

Just like Jack in the children's nursery rhyme had his Jill, so the lumberjacks of Cannock Forest had their lumberjills to take over their work when they were called to fight at the Front.

Now the search is on to find women who worked in Staffordshire's woodlands during the 1939-45 conflict. The little-known lumberjills made a crucial contribution supplying timber for use as pit props and aircraft manufacture, and even in bomb-making.

At its peak, the Women's Timber Corps, set up 70 years ago, had about 8,000 members, young women who were billeted with families or in camps.

They felled and planted trees, meas-

ured them and drove tractors. Members of the WTC, an off-shoot of the Land Army, wore distinctive green uniforms and had their own beret badge featuring a conifer tree.

Today there are still lumberjills but these days machinery does much of the heavy work. Jason MacLean, of the Forestry Commission, which has launched the lumberjill search, said: "It was tough work back then as every tree had to be cut down by hand."

"Even in wartime the women performing this work could cut down 30 trees using a two-hander cross saw if they became very proficient. They really blazed a trail for the women who came after them."

Modern-day lumberjill Jacqui Blackford, based at Birches Valley on Cannock Chase, does not chop down trees but is involved in the important work of introducing schoolchildren to

the forest and helping to educate them about this special environment.

Her female colleagues are involved in planning, planting, design and management of the forest and many can use a chainsaw if required.

The 49-year-old former veterinary nurse said: "I've always been an outdoor girl, and it's nice now to have the forest as your office or classroom.

"Education has become an important part of our work."

The Forestry Commission say many women from the region must have served as lumberjills in the war but very little is known about where they were posted locally. Possible postings could have included Cannock Forest.

Anyone who was a lumberjill or had a family member who served in a Forestry Commission woodland during the last war is asked to contact Louise Fleetwood on 01623 821 457 or email louise.fleetwood@forestry.gsi.gov.uk



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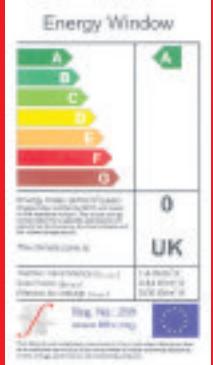
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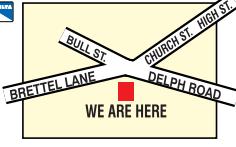
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NEWS

£2.6m revamp of park is moving a step closer

PR agency given award



Award – Megan Dunmore and Carol Downing

KINVER-BASED Public Relations Consultants Association member Downing Dunmore PR is celebrating after achieving its consultancy management standard.

It is one of only 200 PRCA members across the UK that can now offer this internationally recognised standard that is an assurance to clients that Downing Dunmore

PR adheres to strict quality standards. Joint managing director Megan Dunmore said: "We are delighted to have achieved the CMS award and join the elite PR agencies across the UK able to demonstrate service excellence."

Downing Dunmore PR has secured a series of new contracts wins over the last quarter.

CASH Hawthrone & Walker CARRY

20/7/12

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NEWS**Picnic at museum**

A TEDDY bear's picnic for under-fives will take place at a Kingswinford museum.

Broadfield House Glass Museum will host the event on July 27 between 12pm and 4pm.

Families are invited to bring along a picnic, blanket and a teddy bear. There will be crafts, story telling and a museum trail.

There will also be a free Best of British family fun day at the glass museum on August 25 from 10am until 4pm, with Punch and Judy, crafts, glassmaking demos and home-made ice cream.

Horses sent into panic by gate theft

METAL thieves stole 10 gates from rural land in Wall Heath, causing distressed horses to charge from their paddocks.

The 3ft high and 10ft wide gates were ripped from wooden posts on fields, where 13 of the animals are kept.

Owners arrived to find the horses galloping between the paddocks.

They were not used to being let out of their own spaces together and had started panicking.

Luckily, a gate had been left on the entrance to the site which prevented them from running onto the busy A449. People who use the site are now trying to work out how the thieves

managed to get away with so many of the gates.

Tools and horse riding equipment have been stolen in a series of break-ins at the site in recent months – forcing the horse owners to stop storing valuables there.

Crash

Sue Collins, who looks after three horses there with her mother Kate Richardson, said: "If they'd ended up on the road they could have been killed and it could have caused a serious crash."

"We couldn't believe it when we arrived and saw what had happened. We just came down to check and every gate between the paddocks had gone. The poor horses were very distressed

as they couldn't understand what was going on – they aren't usually allowed around each other."

"They calmed down eventually but it took a lot of work."

"They could have been really injured."

Mrs Collins, a 36-year-old mother-of-two, said makeshift wooden barriers would have to be erected as the fences would be expensive to replace.

She added: "We are presuming they have been stolen to be sold on scrap. This a remote area and most people wouldn't even know we are here so they must have planned it."

Anyone with information can call the police on 101.



Horses in one of the paddocks that has been repaired after ten gates were stolen

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£16k theft
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A MAN has denied taking part in a £16,000 armed robbery in the Black Country.

Frank Wilde, aged 32, pleaded not guilty to robbing Thomas Revitt of takings from the Harvester Restaurant at Summerhill House in Wall Heath while he walked to the post office to bank the cash.

Wilde of Berrybush Gardens, High Arcal, Sedgley will face a trial in September.

Appeal for
blood donors

VOLUNTEERS are being sought for a blood donor session which is coming up this weekend.

It will be held at Thorns Community College, Stockwell Avenue in Quarry Bank on Saturday July 28.

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This can be organised on 0300 123 23 23.



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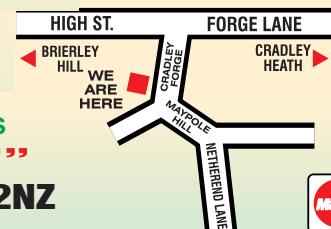


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REVIEW

High energy Madonna is still in Vogue at 53

Good clean fun enjoyed by everyone

Rhys Darby,
Birmingham Town Hall

IT WOULD have taken just two words from Rhys to set me off. They would have been spoken by his character Murray – the ineffectual manager in hit comedy Flight of the Conchords and they would, of course, have been “band meeting”. It’s just something about the way he says them.

He didn’t say them, but he didn’t need to. His show was a riot from start to finish.

His language was clever and his timing spot-on, but his physical energy too beguiled his near sell-out audience. Whether he was imitating a horse doing dressage, living out the social quagmire of shaking hands or taking a sideways glance at hot-air driers he kept everyone in stitches.

He used mime, sound effects and simple silly humour, happily removed from the more menacing acts of his comedy peers.

No one suffered a sense of dread wondering who was going to be picked out. It was good clean fun enjoyed by varying age groups who gave Rhys the deafening applause he deserved.

Sarah Cowen



Madonna on stage during her MDNA Tour at The NIA

Girl Gone Wild set the pace but matters turned darker with Revolver and Gang Bang, with a gun-toting catsuit-wearing Madonna assassinating her dancers with Tarantino-like splashes of gore exploding over the huge video wall.

I Don't Give A featured an on-screen Nicki Minaj rap before - dressed as a baton-twirling 1940s drum majorette complete with marching band - Madonna lightened the mood with Express Yourself. Next came Give Me All Your Luvin' then a rousing Turn Up The Radio.

The ballad Masterpiece was followed by the kinky stuff, shedding her clothes for Erotic Candy Shop and Human Nature. Down to her underwear, Like A Virgin saw her manhandled by a dancer.

LB

Chemistry a part of Lady A's success

Lady Antebellum, 02 Academy, Birmingham COUNTRY music remains deeply unfashionable in the UK but the likes of Lady Antebellum and Taylor Swift are challenging that.

Much of the Tennessee trio's success can be attributed to their quality songs and the chemistry between singers Charles Kelley and Hillary Scott.

The mellow tones of Kelley and purity of Scott are complementary and they come closer and closer together in the love songs until on Just A Kiss they looked about to seal the moment - and the lights blacked out. Nice theatrical touch.

Kelley, in jeans and T-shirt, paced the stage like a rocker and Scott, splendid in sparkling sequins, came into her own on American Honey. Third member Dave Haywood impressed on guitar, mandolin and piano.

Fresh from supporting Bruce Springsteen in London, Lady A were playing the last date of their UK tour and seemed genuinely humbled by their rousing reception. Their 90-minute set reached a satisfying conclusion with the inevitable encore of Need You Now.

Leon Burakowski

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Bid to up number of organs donated

DUDLEY Council has signed up to a new scheme encouraging more people to sign up to the Organ Donor Register and give blood.

The authority is one of just two councils to join the partnership with the NHS Blood and Transplant group.

It aims to help increase the organ and blood donation rates among both its staff and borough residents.

The announcement will see the council encourage people to sign up to the Organ Donor Register (ODR) and consider becoming blood donors. The percentage of people on the ODR in the Dudley Council area is 19 per cent at 58,866, compared to a national average of 30 per cent.

Crime in region takes fall through past year

CRIME in the West Midlands has plummeted over the past year, with big falls in the amount of robberies and violence, according to the latest official figures.

West Midlands Police recorded a 10 per cent drop in overall crime, with 193,532 offences in the 12 months up to the end of March this year.

That included a 20 per cent reduction in robberies, with 7,260 during that period. Vehicle crime dropped by 16 per cent to 25,096, while there was also a 14 per cent reduction in burglary, dropping to 28,170.

Violence against the person dropped by 15 per cent to 35,457. But there were increases in the number of drugs offences – up seven per cent to 9,220, while sexual offences were up one per cent to 2,725.

Other figures, released by the Crime Survey of England and Wales, showed the total number of crimes across England and Wales fell by four per cent to 3,976,312, the first time it has dipped below four million since 1989.

The survey is based on interviews with tens of thousands of people in more than 45,000 households. West Midlands Police has seen crime fall despite facing Government funding cuts of £126m over the next four years.

Council will bring in extra gym instructors

APPRENTICE gym instructors will be employed at council leisure centres in Dudley.

The jobs have been provided through a government-funded scheme run by training firm Lifetime.

Eight posts will be created at Stourbridge's Crystal Leisure Centre as well as Dudley and Halesowen leisure centres.

The plans will go before Dudley Council's human resources chief, Councillor Gaye Partridge, who was due to make a final decision on approval for the scheme on Thursday.

Apprentices will complete training with the external provider including an NVQ in instructing exercise and fitness, according to a report to Councillor Partridge.

The placements last for six months with apprentices working between 16 and 30 hours per week. A report stated:

"These posts would support the existing staffing."

Flypast and fizz



THE champagne corks were popping when a couple from Stourbridge joined hundreds of people who were wowed by a spectacular Spitfire display in the sunshine at an open air prom at RAF Cosford at the weekend. Ted and Val Bryan enjoyed the show to raise money for the RAF Benevolent Fund.

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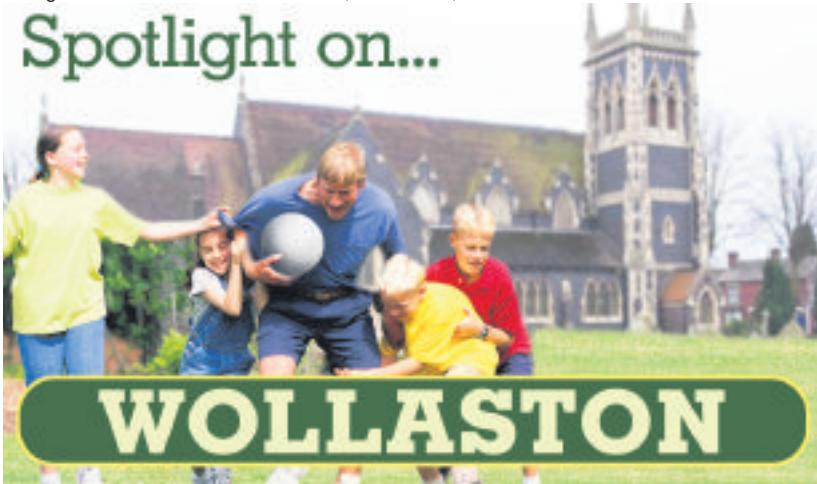
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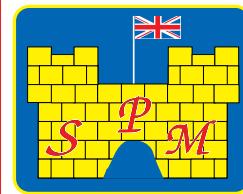
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The spacious accommodation has been thoroughly updated



The galley kitchen utilises space effectively

ENJOYING a cul-de-sac position and backing onto playing fields on the sought-after Crestwood Park development in Kingswinford, this semi-detached bungalow is on the market priced at £149,950.

Thoughtfully and expensively improved the property in Metfield Croft now offers a spacious and beautifully re-appointed accommodation including a conservatory extension and two good sized bedrooms.

It is well placed for a good selection of shops within nearby Lapwood Avenue/Bromley Lane together with regular public transport services and with the centre of Kingswinford only a short distance away.

With gas central heating and UPVC double glazing the bungalow has a 19ft 1in by 12ft lounge with living flame gas fire and smooth stone feature fireplace surround while the conservatory is 12ft 6in by 9ft 7in with French-style doors to the side/rear garden.

The refitted kitchen, 8ft 7in by 7ft 9in, has a range of units with wood effect roll edge work surfaces, one and a half bowl sink/drainer with mixer tap, recess and plumbing for automatic washing machine, recess for tumble dryer, integrated stainless steel four ring gas hob with cooker hood above, integrated oven and fridge/freezer and pullout larder cupboard.

Classic

There are two bedrooms and a bathroom with classic white suite comprising P-shaped bath with shower and screen, vanity units with inset wash basin and WC.

Outside the property is set back behind a front lawn/shrubbed area with a block paved driveway leading to a carport and garage, and there is a low maintenance rear garden with paved patio with raised pebbled rear and border with playing fields beyond.

Call 01384 395 555 to arrange a viewing or further details.

Don't get prickly with those visitors

THERE'S no doubt about it – slugs and snails are having a field day thanks to all the rain we've had, eating bedding plants, chomping on vegetables and munching their way through gardens nationwide.

The more vigilant among us have been doing morning and evening patrols, picking off the slippery suckers before they wreak havoc with our prized plants and suitably disposing of them.

As slugs and snails are particularly rampant in my area, I have resorted to putting young leafy plants, which these pests love, in pots and either placing the pots on metal stands which slugs have trouble in climbing, or putting copper strips around the pots to deter them.

The copper contains a minute electrical charge to deter the slug or snail. But even these have limited effectiveness and some still manage to reach the plants.

"Slugs and snails are likely to be breeding more successfully this year," says Andrew Salisbury, senior entomologist with the RHS.

"They will take advantage of any warm, wet weather to breed and often you find slug and snail eggs in damp and sheltered situations. The eggs are in groups a few millimetres across, spherical in shape and opaque white and you will need to dispose of them."

Escape

Don't throw slugs and snails over the neighbour's fence or into your garden refuse truck, he advises, because they will just escape and return to your plants.

The only way to get rid of them effectively (the squeamish perhaps shouldn't read on) is to do it with a pair of secateurs or pop them into a bag and bin them. "I've seen figures that there are 15,000 slugs a year in an average garden," he adds. That's a lot of secateur work.

They will travel great distances for a tasty morsel. Salisbury has seen evidence of slug damage on really tall clematis and on magnolia flowers – they will go up and down a tree in a night, he says.

Even now, the most effective method of reducing these pests is to use slug pellets, he says.

There are many types on the market, some of which are organic, but you'll need to re-apply them regularly in rainy weather, when they will break down quickly.

Parasitic

Alternatively, invest in a nematode biological control, a parasitic worm which works its way into the soil and will kill slugs underground, but may not be so effective on snails which tend to remain on the surface.



Nematode controls are available from mail order biological control suppliers and come as a powder which dilutes into water. The nematodes penetrate the slugs' body and release bacteria to kill the slugs, and should last around six weeks.

Beer traps and copper tapes around pots may help to some extent, but they won't eliminate the problem.

"You will never totally eliminate slug and snail damage in weather like this," he concludes, "but you can try to reduce the risk."

Encourage predators such as hedgehogs, frogs and toads into your garden by leaving a patch of wild area or installing a pond. You can also encourage snail-eating birds such as thrushes into your garden by planting shrubs and trees which bear berries and create a nesting area.

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What's On! Stourbridge

Model day out for engine fans

KINVER & West Midlands Society of Model Engineers 50th anniversary celebrations on Saturday and Sunday

The 110-strong group will be joined by train enthusiast and music producer Pete Waterman, along with other groups from across the country.

Model trains of all shapes and sizes will be on display and members of the public will even be able to ride on the half-a-mile long track - pulled along by a handmade engine.

The event runs from midday on both days. For more information visit www.kinvermodelengineers.org.uk.

Sporty theme

AN OLYMPIC-THEMED event will be held in a Midland village to bring together a community and promote businesses in the area. The Wall Heath Olympic Summer Fair will take place in the Dudley borough village on Saturday from 10am.

It will be held in the village's shopping precinct and in the car parks of the Horse and Jockey pub and Prince Albert Hotel.

Teddy bear tea

A TEDDY bear's picnic for under-fives will take place at a Kingswinford museum. Broadfield House Glass Museum will host the event on July 27 between 12pm and 4pm.

Coronation Street reunion for Grand's panto stars

ONE of the most well-loved TV soap couples will be reunited on stage at Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre this year as it was announced Ken Morley has joined the pantomime cast.

Ken, best known for playing Reg Holdsworth in Coronation Street, will be teaming up in Jack and the Beanstalk with Benidorm and Loose Women star Sherrie Hewson, who played his on-screen wife Maureen in the soap.

Elbow room at the NIA

BRIT and Mercury Music Prize winning Bury rock band Elbow are going to be in concert at Birmingham NIA in November as part of their UK tour.

Tickets - priced £29.50 plus fees - go on sale tomorrow (Friday) from 9am via www.theticketfactory.com or 0844 338 8000.

Olympic

The band, fronted by Guy Garvey, have composed the theme music for the BBC's Olympic coverage, entitled First Steps.

Elbow's debut UK arena tour in 2011 sold out and they've even launched their own beer. Dead in the Boot, their B-sides album, is due out next month.

The couple's comedy partnership on Corrie delighted audiences during the 1990s.

Actor and comedian Ken will play The King.

Tamworth-based singer Niki Evans, who shot to fame on The X-Factor, returns for her third Grand Theatre panto as The Fairy. Highly-rated pantomime performer Nigel Ellacott joins the line-up as Jack's mother, Dame Trott.

Orville

Already announced for the star-studded show is Keith Harris, with his side-kicks Orville the duck and Cuddles the monkey.

The actor playing the lead role of Jack has yet to be announced. Jack and the Beanstalk will run from December 8 to January 20.

It is already proving a hit with more than 14,500 tickets having been pre-booked.



Sherrie Hewson (centre) and Ken Morley (centre right) make it a Coronation Street reunion in Wolverhampton Grand's panto Jack and the Beanstalk. Also in the cast are, left, Niki Evans, Keith Harris and, right, top panto dame Nigel Ellacott. More than 14,500 tickets have been booked with more than four months to curtain up

Free activities for youngsters

THE RYEMARKET in Stourbridge is putting on a host of free events for youngsters during the summer holidays, starting on July 27 with a sporting theme to coincide with the opening of the Olympic Games. National flags will decorate the centre and budding footballers will be able to see a football freestyler giving three shows and take part in his workshops.

There will also be gold medal making craft workshops. This will be the first in a series of Free Fun Fridays at the centre during the holidays.

Treats enjoyed

TENANTS at the Red House Glass Cone, in Wordsley, are running one of their popular Have a Go Days on August 4 from 10am to 4pm. Children and grown-ups too can drop by and try their hand at one of the crafts practised on site whether it's throwing a pot, engraving glass, woodturning or glass fusing. Each craft costs £5.

Snakes on show

WEST Midlands-based Animal Antics will show off their snakes and spiders in the centre on August 10 and a circus skills workshops for would-be jugglers and plate spinners is being held on August 31. For details see www.ryemarketshoppingcentre.co.uk

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What's On!**SATURDAY'S TV 28.07.12****CHOICE****Michael Phelps****Olympics 2012**

BBC1, 7pm
Gary Lineker presents all the key action live on the opening evening of the eagerly anticipated London Games. Much of tonight's focus will be on the swimming at the Aquatics Centre. Proceedings get under way with Michael Phelps looking to add to his record 14 Olympic golds when he competes in the 400m individual medley final. Away from the pool, men's bantamweight and middleweight boxing will take place at the ExCel London, with Luke Campbell and Anthony Ogogo genuine medal contenders for Great Britain in the respective divisions.

BBC1

6.00 Olympic Breakfast. A round-up of national and international news. **9.00** Olympics 2012. Mishal Husain introduces coverage of the opening rowing and swimming heats, along with news from the men's cycling road race and the women's 10m air rifle. **11.30** Olympics 2012. Including further coverage of the rowing and swimming heats. **1.00** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **1.15** Olympics 2012. Jake Humphrey presents coverage of the conclusion to the men's cycling road race, which culminates in a finish on the Mall. **4.45** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **5.00** Olympics 2012. Coverage of this afternoon's archery and tennis.

7.00 **Olympics 2012.** Gary Lineker presents coverage on the opening evening of the Games, featuring the first four swimming finals at the Aquatics Centre and the latest men's bantamweight and middleweight bouts at the ExCel London. The schedule features the 7.30 men's 400m individual medley final, 7.40 women's 100m butterfly semi-finals, 7.49 men's 400m freestyle final, 8.09 women's 400m individual medley final, 8.30 men's 100m breaststroke semi-finals and 8.50 women's 4x100m freestyle relay final.

10.00 BBC News; Weather. **10.20** The National Lottery Saturday Night Draws. **10.30** Olympics Tonight. A look back at the day's action and the latest live events. **12.00** BBC News. **12.10** Olympic Sportsday. Dan Walker presents a final round-up of the opening day's events at London 2012. **12.55** Weatherview. **1.00** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 Cbeebies. **7.00** CBBC. **12.00** Film: Run of the Arrow. (1957) **1.20** Film: El Cid. (1961) **4.15** Escape to the Country. (R) **5.15** Formula 1: Hungarian Grand Prix Qualifying Highlights. **6.30** Flog It! Amazon and Thomas Plant value items in Southend-on-Sea, Essex, including a Dewarflite bowl and a lime kiln, while presenter Paul Martin heads to a local museum. (R)

7.30 **Dad's Army.** Comedy, starring John Laurie. (R) **8.00** BBC Proms 2012. Daniel Barenboim conducts the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra in a performance of Beethoven's Symphony No. 5 in C minor (choral) and Presented by Katie Derham. **9.20** Barenboim on Beethoven: Nine Symphonies That Changed the World. Conductor Daniel Barenboim explains why he believes Beethoven's symphonies are among the most powerful and moving ever created, as he performs them in China and South Korea.

10.50 TOTP2. Mark Radcliffe introduces performances from the BBC archive, featuring artists including Altered Images, the Who and Belinda Carlisle, as well as a song by Rufus Wainwright. (R) **11.00** The Big Bang Theory. Kimberly Wyatt and Charlie Baker are the guests joining team captains Rufus Hound and Rhys Darby and regular panelist Rob Rouse for the comedy quiz.

11.50 Film: Jersey Girl. (2004) New love gives hope to a man trying to raise his baby alone after his wife dies in childbirth and he loses his job. Kevin Smith's romantic comedy, with Ben Affleck and Liv Tyler.

1.30 Film: Golden Door. (2006) **3.20** Close.

ITV1

6.00 CITV: Mini CITV. **7.20** CITV. **8.25** Saturday Cookbook. **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. **10.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. **11.20** The Real Housewives of New York City. **12.20** ITV News; Weather. **12.30** All Star Family Fortunes. (R) **1.10** Dancing on Ice Goes Gold. (R) **2.15** The Spy Who Loved Me. (1977) **3.00** Bond spy adventure, starring Roger Moore. **5.30** Regional Programme; Weather. **5.45** ITV News; Weather.

6.00 Agatha Christie's Marple. The nursery rhyme Sing a Song of Sixpence is connected to the murders of a business magnate, his wife and their maid. Julia McKellar stars as Miss Marple. **6.00** Midsummer Murders. A farmer is found dead at a sacred stone circle in Midsummer Mow and suspicion initially falls on local druids, but Barnaby is convinced greed rather than religious fervour is the motive. (R)

10.00 ITV News; Weather. **10.15** Mad Mad World. Joe Swash, Kimberly Wyatt and Charlie Baker are the guests joining team captains Rufus Hound and Rhys Darby and regular panelist Rob Rouse for the comedy quiz.

10.55 Film: Alexander. (2004) A Macedonian king undertakes a 10-year campaign to create a world's most powerful empire. Oliver Stone's historical epic, starring Colin Farrell, Angelina Jolie and Val Kilmer.

1.50 The Store. Home shopping; ITV News Headlines. **2.55** In Plain Sight. (R) **3.40** ITV Nightscreen. Text-based information service. **5.30** ITV Morning News.

CHANNEL 4

6.05 Channel 4 Presents: London 2012 – David Clarke PHII. (R) **6.10** The Hoobs. (R) **6.35** British Formula Ford Championship. **7.00** The Grid. **7.55** The Paralympic Show. (R) **7.55** The Morning Line. **8.55** Ibiza Rocks: Labrinth. (R) **9.10** T4: Shooting Calvin Harris and Example. **9.45** T4: New Girl. (R) **10.15** The Queen's Diamond Jubilee. **11.45** T4: Summer Daze. **12.20** T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.50** T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.20** T4: The Simpsons. (R) **1.55** Channel 4 Racing. **4.15** Channel 4 Presents: London 2012 – Bayley Part II. (R) **5.20** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.20** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.55** Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.20 Come Dine with Me. Rebecca Ryan hosts the final dinner party in York. (R) **6.50** Channel 4 News. **7.20** 4though.tv. **7.25** The Million Pound Drop. Joe Swash and Jessica-Jane Clement finish their game, then Debra Stephenson and Jon Culshaw and Martin Kemp and his son Roman take their turn on the high-stakes quiz.

9.00 Film: The Women. (2008) Premiere. A group of rich women rally round when a friend learns of her husband's affair. Comedy drama remake with an all-female cast, including Meg Ryan and Annette Bening. **11.10** Film: Red Cliff. (2008) Premiere. John Woo's historical drama, with Tony Leung Chiu Wai and Takeshi Kaneshiro. In Mandarin. **1.50** The Million Pound Drop. (R) **3.05** Southland. **3.50** St Elsewhere. (R) **4.35** Deal or No Deal: Gold Medal Deal. **5.30** Countdown. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.00** Market Man. (R) **10.30** Monkey Life. (R) **11.00** Big Brother: The Eviction. (R) **12.00** The Hotel Inspector. (R) **1.00** Film: Murder 101. (2006) Mystery, starring Dick Van Dyke. **2.45** Live Football. **5.15** Film: Jesse Stone: Night Passage. (2006) **7.00** 5 News Weekend.

7.05 NCIS. Abby babysits a bright nine-year-old while the rest of the team searches for the youngster's missing father – a man with a connection with robbery and murder. (R) **7.55** NCIS. The investigators identify the man they believe to be the port-to-port killer, and rush to apprehend him before he can claim any more victims. Last in the series. (R)

8.55 5 News Weekend. **9.00** Big Brother. The latest updates from the house. Narrated by Marcus Bentley. **10.00** CSI: Miami. The team investigate a female escort is found murdered in a private hotel cabin and discovers the victim had been providing his services to the establishment's guests.

11.00 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. A woman reports the disappearance of her son in a park and the investigation turns on a suspicious man seen loitering in the vicinity – but all is not as it appears. (R) **12.00** SuperCasino. **4.00** HouseBusters. (R) **4.25** Great Scientists. (R) **4.50** Rough Guide to Beaches. (R) **5.00** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.10** The Milkshake! Show. (R) **5.35** Thomas & Friends. (R) **5.45** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
8.30 Olympics 2012 **2.00** Olympics 2012 – Paralympics 2012 **11.00** Russell Howard's Good News (2012)

BBC Four
7.00 The Blue Planet. The effects of tides on marine life. **8.00** 10 Things You Didn't Know About Earthquakes **9.00** Wallander: Sidetracked – Part One **10.25** Natural World **11.15** Arena: Amy Winehouse – The Day She Came to Winehouse

ITV2
2.40 America's Got Talent **5.25** Film: King Kong (2005) **9.00** Film: Quantum of Solace (2008) James Bond thriller, starring Daniel Craig. **11.10** Celebrity Juice

ITV3
5.50 Film: The Secret of My Sister (1987) **8.00** Film: Doc Hollywood (1991) Comedy, starring Michael J. Fox. **10.00** Agatha Christie's Marple

ITV4
3.45 British Superbike Championship Highlights **4.45** The Cycle Show **5.15** Film: The Great Outdoors (1988) **7.00** The Sweeney **8.00** Minder **9.00** Film: Fire Down Below (1997) **11.10** Film: Escape from New York (1981) **E4**
3.05 Desperate Housewives **4.00** Revenge **5.00** How I Met Your Mother **6.00** Big Bang Theory **7.30** Rules of Engagement **8.30** Suburgatory **9.00** Film: Blade Trinity (2004) **11.10** The Big Bang Theory

Film4
3.10 Ponyo (2008) **5.15** A Walk in the Clouds (1995) Romantic drama, starring Keanu Reeves, Aitana Sanchez-Gijon and Anthony Quinn. **7.15** Jumper (2009) Fantasy thriller. **9.00** Run Fat Boy Run (2007) **10.55** Team America: World Police (2004)

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SUNDAY'S TV 29.07.12

CHOICE



Rebecca Adlington

BBC1

6.00 Olympic Breakfast. **9.00** Olympics 2012. Mishal Husain presents coverage of this morning's rowing heats and repechages, and the latest swimming heats on day two of the London Games. **10.30** Olympics 2012. Hazel Keech presents further coverage of the rowing and swimming heats, along with the latest on the women's cycling road race and the start of the sailing regatta. **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.10** Olympics 2012. Jake Humphrey presents coverage of the concluding stages of the women's cycling road race, which reaches a climax on the Mall. Olympics coverage continues on BBC2. **5.00** Formula 1: Hungarian Grand Prix Highlights. Action from the 11th round of the season. **6.30** BBC News; Regional News; Weather. **7.00** Olympics 2012. Gary Lineker introduces this evening's four swimming finals, along with updates on the women's 100m backstroke and men's football, both featuring Team GB. The full schedule of finals features the 7.30 women's 100m butterfly, 8.08 men's 100m breaststroke, 8.15 women's 400m freestyle and 8.54 men's 100m freestyle relay, along with the semi-finals in the 7.37 men's 200m freestyle, 7.48 women's 100m breaststroke, 8.25 men's 100m backstroke and 8.44 women's 100m backstroke. **10.00** BBC News; Regional News. **10.25** Olympics Tonight. Gabby Logan looks back at the highlights of day two. **12.00** BBC News. **12.10** Olympic Sportsday. **12.55** Weatherview. **1.00** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies. **7.05** CBBC. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.30** Raymond Blanc: The Very Hungry Frenchman. (R) **12.30** Escape to the Country. (R) **1.15** Film: The Man from Laramie. (1955) Western, with James Stewart. **2.55** Great British Adventure Songs. (R) **3.25** Oceans. (R) **4.25** Songs of Praise. **5.00** Olympics 2012. **7.00** Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce and the team head to Brighton College, where objects up for valuation include a medall from the Battle of Trafalgar and a rare piece of Clarice Cliff pottery. (R) **8.00** Engineering Giants: Ferry Strip Down. Tom Bell witness North Sea passenger ferry the Pride of Bruges receiving a complete overhaul to extend its working life. Last in the series. **9.00** The Dark Nature's Wild. (R) The Natural World. New series. Biologists and camera crews explore the wildernesses of South and Central America at night, beginning by encountering nocturnal predators in the jungles of Costa Rica. **10.00** MotoGP. The US Grand Prix (Start-time 10.00pm). Matt Abbott presents highlights of the opening of the 10th round of the season at Laguna Seca in California. **11.00** Line of Duty. Gates goes on the run, while Arnott questions Fleming's integrity. Last in the series. (R) **12.00** Twenty. (R) **12.30** Formula 1: Hungarian Grand Prix Highlights. (R) **2.00** Sign Zone: Holby City. (R) **3.00** Britain's Heritage Heroes. (R) **3.30** Close.

ITV1

6.00 CITV: Mini City. **7.20** CITV. **8.25** Dinner Date. **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** House Gift. (R) **10.25** There's No Taste Like Home. (R) **11.20** The Hungry Sailors. (R) **12.20** ITV News; Weather. **12.30** Film: Baby Boom. (1987) **2.35** Film: Columbo: The Mystery of a Red Shirt. (1991) Crime drama, starring Peter Falk. Little Richard, Dabney Coleman, Shera Danese, Cheryl Paris and Julian Stone. **4.30** Doc Martin. (R) **5.30** Doc Martin. (R) **6.30** Regional Programme; Weather. **6.45** ITV News; Weather. **7.00** Royal Greenwich. John Sergeant explores the history of the London borough. **8.00** The Zoo. Two-part follow-up to the series about London Zoo. One keeper prepares to deliver penguin chicks, while another tries to raise awareness of a plague affecting frogs. **9.00** A Touch of Frost. Inspector Jack Frost reopens an unsolved murder case when the remains of a 14-year-old girl who went missing 20 years previously are discovered on a housing development. (R) **11.00** ITV News; Weather. **11.20** Take Me Out. A hockey champion, a drummer, a graphic designer and a gym member try to impress 30 single women, and last week's couple go on their presents. (R) **12.25** Premiership Rugby. Sevens Series. **1.15** The Store; ITV News Headlines. **3.05** British Superbike Championship Highlights. **3.55** Motorsport UK. **4.45** ITV Nightscreen. **5.30** ITV Morning News.

CHANNEL 4

6.15 The Hoobs. (R) **6.40** Ironman 2012. **7.05** FIM Superbike World Championship 2012. (R) **7.35** Road to London 2012: Paralympics Extra. New series. A preview of this summer's Games. **8.00** Will & Grace. (1998) **8.25** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **9.25** Frasier. (R) **9.55** Frasier. (R) **10.00** Sunday Brunch. (R) **1.35** Jamie Does Stockholm. (R) **2.35** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **2.35** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **3.30** The Simpsons. (R) **3.45** The Simpsons. (R) **4.35** Deal or No Deal: Gold Medal Deal. (R) **5.35** Channel 4 News. **6.00** 4thought.tv. **6.10** Film: I'm 7 Again. (2009) A man's wish to be a teenager again is granted, but his mature outlook on life puts him at odds with others when he returns to high-school. Comedy, with Matthew Perry and Zac Efron. **8.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) Chefs Mark Foster, Tasha Danvers, Derek Redmond and Louise Hazel compete in the dinner-party challenge to win £1,000 for a charity of their choice. **9.00** Thelma's Gypsy Girls. Thelma Madine invites the trainees to her daughter's birthday party, while preparations at the factory as Grace attends a family funeral and Bridget storms out. **10.00** Sex Story: Fifty Shades of Grey. The phenomenon of the best-selling erotic novel. **11.00** Film: Indecent Proposal. (1993) Drama, with Robert Redford and Demi Moore. **1.10** Camelot. (R) **2.00** The Big C. **2.30** Hollyoaks. (R) **4.35** St Elsewhere. (R) **5.25** Countdown. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Fifi and the Flowertots. (R) **6.25** City of Friends. (R) **6.35** Harry and His Bucket Full of Dinosaurs. (R) **6.50** Castle Farm. (R) **6.55** Abby's Flying Fairy School. (R) **7.00** Roobarb and Custard. (R) **7.15** Bedtime in Pyjamas. (R) **7.25** Family! (R) **7.35** Noddy in Toyland. (R) **7.45** Mio Mao. (R) **7.50** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) **8.00** Little Princess. (R) **8.10** The Adventures of Botts' Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.15** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **8.45** Rupert Bear. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.15** The Mr Men Show. (R) **9.25** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **9.40** Jelly Jamm. (R) **10.00** Inside Hollywood. **10.05** Monkey Life. (R) **10.35** Ice Road Truckers: Deadliest Roads. (R) **1.35** King of the Jungle. (R) **2.35** Film: Doctor Who and the Daleks. (1965) **2.15** Film: Zoom. (2004) **4.00** Film: Police Academy 5: Assignment Miami Beach. (1988) **5.50** Film: Ghostbusters II. (1989) **7.55** 5 News Weekend. **8.00** Once Upon a Time. Emma searches for evidence that Mary Margaret was framed for Kathryn's murder, while a flashback to the land of fairies reveals why Regina harbours a grudge against Snow White. **9.00** Big Brother. **10.00** Film: Bulletproof. (1996) Action comedy, starring Adam Sandler. **11.35** Film: Undisputed. (2002) Boxing drama, starring Ving Rhames. **1.20** SuperCasino. **3.50** Sons of Anarchy. **4.50** Rough Guide to Cities. (R) **5.00** Anna's Helpline. (R) **5.10** The Milkshake! Show. (R) **5.35** Thomas & Friends. (R) **5.45** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three **9.00** Olympics 2012. **2.00** Olympics 2012. **7.00** Olympics 2012. **11.00** Family Guy. **11.45** American Dad! **BBC Four** **7.00** Himalaya with Michael Palin **8.00** The Kenneth Williams Story: A Reputation Special. **9.30** Kenneth Williams: Fantabulous! **10.50** Parkinson: The Interviews – Kenneth Williams **ITV2** **3.00** Film: The Flintstones in Viva Rock Vegas. (2000) **4.50** Film: Dante's Peak (1997) **6.50** Film: The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor. (2008) **8.00** Bendinford **10.00** The Only Way Is Essex 10.45 Film: The Jacket (2005) **ITV3** **3.50** Film: Doc Hollywood (1991) **5.50** Agatha Christie's Poirot 9.00 Film: Vertigo (1958) Hitchcock thriller, starring James Stewart. **11.40** Trial & Retribution **E4** **3.10** Glee 4.10 New Girl 4.40 Suburgatory 5.10 The Big Bang Theory 6.10 The Big Bang Theory 7.10 The Big Bang Theory: The Middle (2006) **9.00** 50 Greatest Plastic Surgery **7.55** 5 News Weekend. **8.00** Once Upon a Time. Emma searches for evidence that Mary Margaret was framed for Kathryn's murder, while a flashback to the land of fairies reveals why Regina harbours a grudge against Snow White. **9.00** Big Brother. **10.00** Film: Bulletproof. (1996) Action comedy, starring Adam Sandler. **11.35** Film: Undisputed. (2002) Boxing drama, starring Ving Rhames. **1.20** SuperCasino. **3.50** Sons of Anarchy. **4.50** Rough Guide to Cities. (R) **5.00** Anna's Helpline. (R) **5.10** The Milkshake! Show. (R) **5.35** Thomas & Friends. (R) **5.45** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

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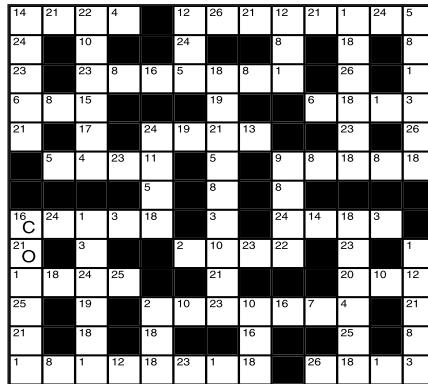
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NO 179

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
U	M	G	L	Y	B	T	K	E	S	F	I	J

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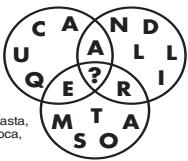
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Replace the question mark with a letter so that the letters within each circle can be arranged to form words on a common theme. What are the three words, and the letter represented by the question mark?

LAST WEEK'S
SOLUTION:

The letter represented by the question mark is C, Canasta, Conquer, Carioca, all card games.

**Double Crossword**

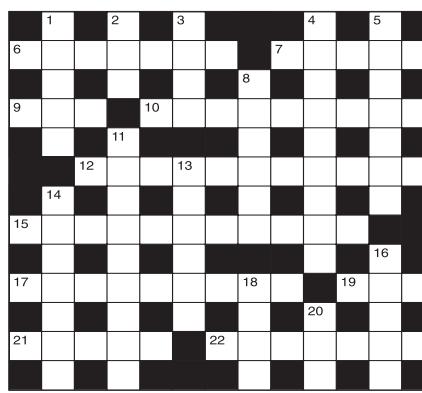
Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

Cryptic Clues:**Across**

- 6. Not going away to do some checking (7)
- 7. Staking a greater amount, we hear - he's feeble-minded (5)
- 9. Perform with cat, somehow (3)
- 10. No serious form of enjoyment (9)
- 12. It may be kept on hand for the fight (6-5)
- 15. Throw into confusion, as a rising does (11)
- 17. When making his incisions, he'll leave no stone unturned! (3-6)
- 19. One politician can be a little devil (3)
- 21. Moves lightly but stumbles (5)
- 22. See 2 Down

Down

- 1. A whip to keep in store (5)
- 2 & 22 Ac. Look at the man in the box - he saw it all (3-7)
- 3. American news would be incomplete without her (4)
- 4. Fashion a catalogue for one who keeps strictly to the rules (9)
- 5. What winkers do? (7)
- 8. Start nothing before one is in a different ring (6)
- 11. This prediction could be hopelessly wrong - or so epoch-making! (9)
- 13. Metal bars go in a variety of tins (6)
- 14. Weapon required to discharge a member (7)
- 16. Be quiet about mother's road accident (5)
- 18 & 20 Dn. i.e. novel translation of "Mephistopheles" (4,3)



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 7 Crossword clue; 8 Entrance; 9 Raft; 10 Farrow; 12 Indoor; 14 Denial; 16 League; 18 Taxi; 20 Deflated; 22 Pulling a punch.
Down: 1 Frontage; 2 User; 3 Swan; 4 Free will; 5 Scored; 6 Buff; 11 Wall; 12 Ace; 13 Opulence; 15 Icicle; 16 Circus; 19 Abut; 21 Fear.
QUICK - Across: 7. Repentance; 8 Acoustics; 9 Gang; 10 Wander; 12 Corner; 14 Street; 16 Lodge; 18 Epler; 20 Motiva; 21 Competition.
Down: 1 Merchant; 2 Ground; 3 Shut; 4 Immacil; 5 Linger; 6 Plan; 11 Remember; 13 Election; 15 Escape; 17 Dived; 19 Poor; 21 Tier.

Sudoku

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S
SOLUTIONS >

1	4	6	9	5	3	8	7	2
8	2	3	7	1	4	5	6	9
9	7	5	6	2	8	3	4	1
7	4	1	8	9	6	2	5	3
4	3	8	2	6	9	1	5	7
5	6	1	4	8	7	9	2	3
3	5	7	8	9	2	6	1	4
6	1	4	3	7	5	2	9	8
2	8	9	1	6	7	3	5	4

3		1	2	6	5
7		3		9	
		9		3	4
1			4		5
2	4	3			
8				9	1
1				5	9
				7	2
5		6	8		

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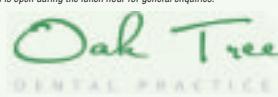
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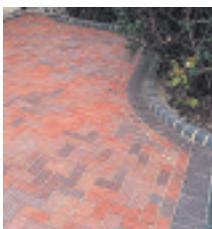
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LOST, Friday, July 13, Dudley Street, Wolverhampton, gents spectacles, £10 reward.

01902 75321.

LOST Gents gold ring, with red synthetic stone, of sentimental value either Dixon Street Playing Fields or in Dudley Road area.
01902 657251.

LOST—Since Thursday, July 12, black/grey female cat, wearing yellow collar, Lyndale area. 07900 110000.

LOST—Slim female tabby and tortoiseshell cat, chipped, Tettenhall area, July 20.
Telephone 01902 742815.

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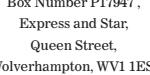
WLTN Male, non smoker, for meals in/out, comfy pubs, theatre, must be animal lover. Dudley area or local.

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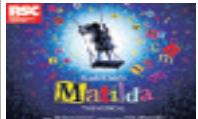
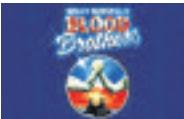
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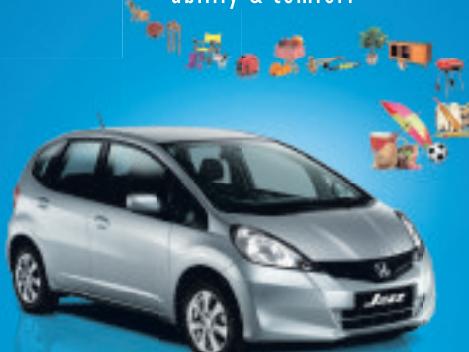
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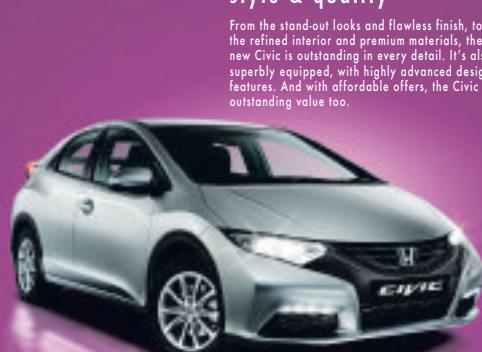
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Seconds coast it as Evesham out for 80

Evesham 80, Stourbridge 81-2.
Stourbridge won by eight wickets

STOURBRIDGE seconds coasted to victory after skittling their opponents for just 80.

Skipper Keith Jones put Evesham in with immediate results, the struggling side bowled out in 25 overs.

Saddan Khan was the only batsman to show any resistance and went on score 35.

Junaed Afzal took 3-24 off seven overs while Will Jennings and Kalpesh Patel claimed two apiece.

Stour teenagers Chris Norgrove (14), Daniel De Saulles (21), and Will Jennings (21) got their side home safely in 20 overs.

Old Elizabethans 141, Stourbridge 74. Old Elizabethans won by 67 runs

Stourbridge thirds' bowlers did well after captain Keith Lister won the toss and put Old Elizabethans in, but a batting failure cost them the match.

Old Elizabethans were restricted to 141 all out in the 39th over. Opener Paul Chapman reached 50 but was out caught to Dave Colesby's bowling.

Rohit Rohan claimed figures of 4-28 off eight overs while Colesby ended up with 2-17 off seven.

Elizabethan bowlers Colin Rees and Paul Chapman proved an even bigger handful as Stour were rolled over for 74 in 38 overs.

Rohan was Stour's mainstay with 19. Rees claimed the top three for 21 off 10 overs and Chapman cleaned up the tail, taking 3-7.

Stourbridge 160-9, Old Elizabethans 166-4. Old Elizabethans won by six wickets

Stourbridge fourths, put in to bat, scored 160-9 off 45 overs. Opener James Springthorpe reached 80, his highest of the season, to get his side to a good score.

But a match-winning second wicket partnership of 92 between Mark Walker (49) and Sam Langston (44) turned the match for Old Elizabethans who won with four overs to spare.

Gloves on for national glory

YOUNG GLOVES karate squad took five top-three places in the national kata championships at Wolverhampton. There was a first for Ryan Hazelwood and a second for Niamh Griffiths. The club host classes in Kidderminster and Stourport.

Geddes free-kick settles friendly clash

Stourbridge 1 AFC Telford 0

ball did not cross the line as it bounced down.

Stourbridge slowly settled and went on to threaten twice within the space of a minute.

First, in the 21st minute a low centre from Leon Broadhurst saw Sam Rock push a shot wide.

Straight afterwards good work by Glassboys' new signing Luke Benbow enabled Rock to cut in from the right, but he struck his low shot straight at the Bucks keeper Ryan Young. Telford

responded with Chris Sharp getting the better of Nathan Bennett as he burst into the left-hand side of the box, but his shot was saved by Turner at his near post.

On 25 minutes Turner was relieved to see Sharp chip the ball over the bar after his clearance had been charged down by the Bucks attacker.

Five minutes before the interval though, Sean Evans, playing against his former club, was fouled

just outside the box and Geddes stepped forward to curl a free-kick over the wall and beyond Young for a fine dead-ball finish.

The Shropshire visitors almost drew level in the 67th minute with Phil Trainer sending a header inches wide of Turner's left-hand upright from a Tom Roberts left-wing corner.

Five minutes later Sharp broke clear through the left channel only for his low shot to be blocked by the legs of Turner.

The hosts replied with substitute Drew Canavan having a speculative low shot pushed round the

post by Young. In the 76th minute Paul McCone supplied a good low cross from the right and a snapshot from trialist Chris Knight drew a parried low save from the Telford custodian with fellow trialist Tom Turton then lifting the rebound over the bar under pressure.

Soon afterwards lively Telford substitute Jake Reid sent a shot narrowly wide from 20 yards.

But chances dried up in the closing stages, although Stourbridge could be pleased with their night's work on their return to action.

Lights on for latest burst of T20 action

FLOODLIT T20 action will take place at Himley Cricket Club next month.

The club are holding the Black Country Floodlit T20 tournament from Monday to Friday (August 20-24) at their Stourbridge Road ground after successful stagings over each of the last two years. The Birmingham League club take on Stourbridge, Wolverhampton and Brewood for the Joe Brander Trophy.

On Thursday there is a one-off game between the pick of the Staffordshire Club Championship and Worcestershire County League. Entry for spectators is free all week.

Organiser Greg Wright said: "We're really excited to welcome two new clubs and two key leagues to this year's floodlit week."

Fresh

"It keeps the buzz going, entertainment fresh and enables us to continue broadening the view of local club cricket."

All the usual T20 action you'd see on TV will be on show including floodlights, coloured clothing and balls plus music and on-field entertainment.

"Huge thanks to our sponsors Banks's, Lenses and Horizon for helping make this happen."

Himley launch the competition on Monday at 5.30pm with a clash against last year's champions, Wolverhampton, followed by newcomers Stourbridge versus Brewood. Further details: 01902 898239.

Tuesdays, Monday, August 20: 5.30pm Himley v Wolverhampton; 7.40pm Stourbridge v Brewood.

Tuesday: 5.30pm Himley v Stourbridge; 7.40pm Brewood v Wolverhampton.

Wednesday: 5.30pm Wolverhampton v Stourbridge; 7.40pm Brewood v Himley.

Thursday: 6.30pm Staffordshire Club Championship vs Worcestershire County League.

Friday: 6.30pm T20 final.

Ace Benjamin proves a Star

Continental Star 1 Sporting Kalsa 0

CONTINENTAL STAR continued their pre-season preparations with a home friendly victory over West Midland Premier side Sporting Kalsa.

The game was decided on 34 minutes when star midfielder Ibrahim Benjamin slotted the ball home from close range following a powerful run into the box. Continental striker Daniel Holgate had spurned a great chance minutes earlier.



Audun Daniels and Mike Baker display their medals after karate world championship success in America

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Page 35



Lights, action
Floodlit T20 returns
with new clubs
Page 35

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Wolves net £1m from the sale of Guedioura

WOLVES have banked £1m from the sale of Adlene Guedioura to Nottingham Forest – and insisted the deal left all parties happy.

The Algeria international's exit guarantees the club a seven-figure sum and he has signed a three-year contract. Guedioura, 26, became Wolverhampton-born new Forest boss Sean O'Driscoll's first signing as manager.

The midfielder, who was into the final year of his contract at Molineux, was paraded at the City Ground after rejoining the club where he made 19 appearances on loan last season.

His departure sparked a mixed reaction among Wolves supporters, with many disappointed the midfielder didn't get more of a chance after playing just 38 games since his arrival in January 2010.

Supporters also speculated on whether boss Stale Solbakken had approved the deal. But chief executive Jez Moxey insisted the transfer had the Norwegian's full support, saying: "The manager makes the decisions on the buying and selling of players," said Moxey.

"He had watched videos on Adlene in action and decided this was the best course of action for us."

"He wanted to go and we were happy for him to leave provided we got the right money for him."

Billingham double is not enough

Sutton Coldfield 3
Stourbridge 2

TWO goals from Ben Billingham in the opening quarter-hour appeared to have put Stourbridge on the road to victory.

But Sutton Coldfield got one back shortly before the interval and then took charge of the second period to win 3-2.

The match opened in a lively fashion. But Stourbridge then imposed some pressure to produce two quick goals for Billingham.

But Harry Harris netted for the Evo-Stik Division One South side and then levelled on 63 minutes before Jamie Sheldon bagged the winner six minutes later.

Stourbridge: Solly Dyson, Griffiths (Rock 45), Oliver Geddes (Evans 45), Bennett (Hingley 61), Turton, Broadhurst, Benbow, Billingham (Knight 45), Canavan.

More action – Page 35

Two crucial days loom for the captain

HEATHENS skipper Adam Roynon is facing up to the biggest 48 hours of his career.

Roynon has been a revelation for the former Cradley club this season and has led them to the top of the National League table.

The Heathens are also on the verge of reaching the Knockout Cup final. They hold a 28-point lead over the Isle of Wight as they prepare for the semi-final, second leg which takes place on August 9 at the Smallbrook Stadium, Ryde.

Roynon is now getting ready for the British Final at Wolverhampton next Mon-

Dudley Heathens

day. The following night, on the same track, he will start as one of the clear favourites as the Heathens stage the FAST Golden Hammer.

The Cumbrian is scoring freely in the Elite and Premier leagues for Coventry and Workington respectively.

When both British championship semi-finals were washed out, bosses opted to put the 16 top-averaging riders straight into the shoot-out – and Roynon made the cut.

He said: "It's a massive meeting, the Golden Hammer, and it is a privilege to be

riding in it. I have also got the British Final here before that so I am a little nervous about that one.

"Hopefully, I can get some big scalps in that British Final and it will set me up nicely to win the Golden Hammer on Tuesday!"

"Home track advantage will be very important for me. It is nice that I am riding this track because it is a quite tricky track to ride," he added.

"So having the home meetings here for Dudley and riding here a bit away with Coventry is helping. Hopefully, I can pull off a bit of an upset on Monday and then follow that up with a win in the Golden Hammer."

The Hammer, which is a re-arranged date on Tuesday, is once again promoting the FAST message – Face, Arms, Speech, Time – in conjunction with Dudley Stroke Association.

It features all the Heathens riders plus former favourites Lee Smart, Kyle Newman and Micky Dyer and former winner Simon Lambert who would love to regain the title.

Anyone attending the British Final should keep their re-admission ticket and gain entry to the Hammer for £10 instead of the £12 price. The club have also confirmed their 'Kids for a Quid' policy for the Hammer.

Keeper is keen to put down his roots

ALBION favourite Ben Foster wants to spend the rest of his career at The Hawthorns.

The former England goalkeeper is hoping his £3.5m summer move from Birmingham will be his last ever transfer.

And the reigning player of the year revealed he is finally hoping to put down roots after playing for 10 different clubs since turning professional in 2001.

"I hope this will be my last move," said the 29-year-old from Albion's pre-season training camp in Sweden.

"I have no interest in moving south or going up north. I'm from the Midlands, my kids are going to be settling into schools soon so we need to get them registered," he added.

"My wife loves the area too. These are things people don't always see from our point of view – they just see the footballer and no more. We are people who have families and it's important they're settled and happy."

"That's a big thing for me, making sure the kids are enrolled in school and happy. We're now on the lookout for our final family home."

Leamington-born Foster made the permanent switch to The Hawthorns this summer, signing a three-year contract.

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The Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Ketley, Telford. Thursday, July 26, 2012.

PROMOTION HOPES STILL ON AFTER WIN

Streetly 261-8, Stourbridge 262-4.
Stourbridge won by six wickets

STOURBRIDGE kept alive their hopes of promotion to Division Two of the Birmingham Premier League by beating Streetly with nine overs to spare.

The convincing win came after Streetly piled up 261 off 55 overs after being put in by Stour skipper Richard Bradley, counting on assistance for his bowlers after days of rain.

He had a cause to worry as opening pair Andrew Lloyd and Neil Curtis raced to 34 off six overs.

Bradley was replaced by leg spinner Audy Alexander in the seventh over with immediate rewards. Alexander had the dangerous Lloyd trapped in front for 20; nine runs later the other opener Neil Curtis was caught and bowled by the leggie for 20.

Streetly managed to regain their grip through Craig Moore and Shaun Findlay who batted with calm assurance for 29 overs.

Mammoth

Finally, an indiscretion from Findlay, trying to smash Mikes Patel over the long on boundary, led to his downfall to a smart catch inches from the from the rope. Streetly's score had taken on a mammoth proportion with the third wicket partnership of 110. Findlay was out for 66 but partner Moore was not out on 47 with their side 153-3 in the 39th over.

Alexander bowled Grifffiths for 17 and in his next over had No.6 Matt Hinton lbw for one.

Sam Bates joined Moore and took the score past 200. With the score on 217 Patel had Bates caught driving for 10. Further acceleration

Stourbridge CC

came from Moore and Richard Slatem with just four overs remaining. He and Moore put on 23 when Mikes Patel had Moore caught for 88. Slatem's onslaught ended in the final over with four deliveries remaining. Jitesh Patel, bowling the final over had him lbw for 27 off 13 balls.

Alexander took 4-66 off 17 overs.

In the fifth over of the Stour innings Streetly had opener Steve Game caught behind for four off Slatem with the score on 19.

By the 30th over Stour were in an invincible position with a partnership of 168. Opener Matt Bradley and No.3 Alexander had taken the score to 187-1. Bradley, looking set for a big score, was run out on 71. Alexander went on to make 109 but was caught hooking off Slatem.

Josh Banks and Richard Bradley played with caution and put on 49 when the unhappy Banks was given out lbw for 36. Bradley remained not out on 17 as Jitesh Patel finished the job with a stylish straight boundary to get Stour home in the 46th over.

More cricket – Page 35

Onwards and upwards for the batsman



Spot the bat! Michael Johnson of Wellington plays what appears to be an otherwise immaculate shot at Himley but for the disappearing piece of wood. It wasn't an easy day for the visitors, dismissed for 106 as Ashfak Hussain claimed 4-25. Himley batsmen Rajat Bhatia (46 not out) and Greg Wright (34) then eased their side to 107-3 and a seven-wicket victory in the Birmingham League Premier.

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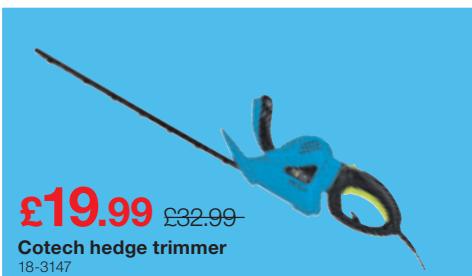
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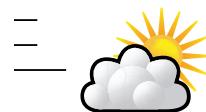
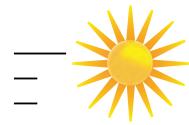
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